

Jones and Gofman (J. Invest. Dermat. **19**: 71, 1952) have studied in patients with xanthomatous lesions by means of the ultracentrifuge the same substance, namely beta-1 lipoprotein, that we found by electrophoresis to be present in abnormally high concentration. These authors observed in patients with xanthomatous lesions a great increase in the concentration of those beta-1 lipoproteins having flotation rates between S_f 10 and 40.

I cannot comment on Dr. Cornbleet's statement concerning mast cells because we have not done any studies along these lines. I should like to say in regard to Dr. Weidman's comment that it is much easier to induce by means of a low-fat diet a decrease in the amounts of plasma lipids in idiopathic hyperlipemia than in primary hypercholesteremic xanthomatosis. This suggests a different etiology for the two diseases. Thannhauser (Tr. A. Am. Phys. **62**: 245, 1949) probably is correct in his belief that in idiopathic hyperlipemia the primary fault lies in an inadequate transport of the lipids from the blood stream into the tissue; whereas primary hypercholesteremic xanthomatosis represents an inborn metabolic error in which there is an overproduction of cholesterol and phospholipids.

ANNOUNCEMENT

A special international award, to consist of a bronze medal and a scroll, is planned to honor outstanding workers in the field of the venereal diseases and non-venereal treponematoses. Provided sufficient funds can be collected to guarantee an annual award out of interest on a special fund, this award will be administered by the World Health Organization, in a manner similar to WHO's administration of the Darling Award for outstanding achievements in malaria control.

Since this is to be an international award, funds are being sought from interested persons and organizations throughout the world. Individuals and organizations in the United States are invited to contribute toward the establishment of this special fund. Checks should be made out to "THE INTERNATIONAL TREPONEMATOSIS AWARD FUND", and sent to the temporary custodian of funds collected in the United States, Dr. Frank W. Reynolds, The Saratoga Spa, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.